

## HEROES OF HAMPI

When the two warrior brothers, Hakka and Bukka, go hunting with their hounds on the banks of the river Pampa, or Tungabhadra, they do not expect the rabbit they are chasing to turn around and fight! Still less do they expect to find themselves spending the rest of the day, hearing stories about the land they are standing on. Stories about the gods and humans who inhabited it. Of the river Pampa who yearned to marry Shiva. Of Vali, the insecure king of Kishkindha, and of Rama who was unable to give his faithful lieutenant, Hanuman, the one thing he desired.

More mysterious is the storyteller, an ascetic, who insists that the brothers are destined to become rulers of a mighty empire.

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#### HANUMAN



#### SATI AND SHIVA



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# HEROES OF HAMPI

THE MYTHOLOGY OF KISHKINDHA

Vol 826 | ₹50



ISBN 81-8482-574-9



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# HEROES OF HAMPI

2010. BY THE ROCKY BANKS OF THE RIVER TUNGABHADRA, IS A PLACE CALLED HAMPI. AMONGST THE BOULDERS LIE DESERTED, FANTASTIC SHAPES AND STRUCTURES, CARVED LOVINGLY BY ANCIENT CRAFTSMEN: TALL TEMPLE TOWERS AND STRANGE BEASTS LIKE THE HALF-LION HALF-ELEPHANT YALI, AND THE FABULOUS CROCODILIAN MAKARA. THERE ARE PILLARS THAT PLAY MUSICAL NOTES WHEN THEY ARE STRUCK, GEOMETRIC TANKS, A PALACE TURRETED LIKE A LOTUS, AND IMAGES OF GODS EVERYWHERE. THESE ARE THE RUINS OF A ONCE FABULOUS CITY, VIJAYANAGARA, THE CITY OF VICTORY, THE CAPITAL OF A GREAT EMPIRE. NOW, AS IN THE CENTURIES BEFORE THE CITY CAME INTO EXISTENCE, ONLY THE MONKEYS SCRAMBLE OVER THE ROCKS.

PARIMALA T.V

Book No:

A8

26/08/16





IN THE EARLY FOURTEENTH CENTURY, THE ARMIES OF THE DELHI SULTANATE ATTACKED THE DECCAN HOPING TO EXPAND THEIR TERRITORIES. OVER THE NEXT TWENTY YEARS, PITCHED BATTLES WERE FOUGHT, AS THE KINGDOMS OF THE SOUTH DEFENDED THEIR LANDS.



ONCE, IN A BREAK BETWEEN BATTLES, TWO BROTHERS, THE WARRIORS HAKKA AND BUKKA, WENT HUNTING ON THE BANKS OF THE RIVER TUNGABHADRA.



WE NEED A NEW STRATEGY, BUKKA. OUR ARMY IS BEING BEATEN BACK EVERY SINGLE TIME.

ALL WE CAN DO FOR NOW IS TO TRY AND HOLD THE FORTRESS OF ANEGUNDI, AND WORRY ABOUT FEEDING THE ARMY. FOOD, AFTER ALL...



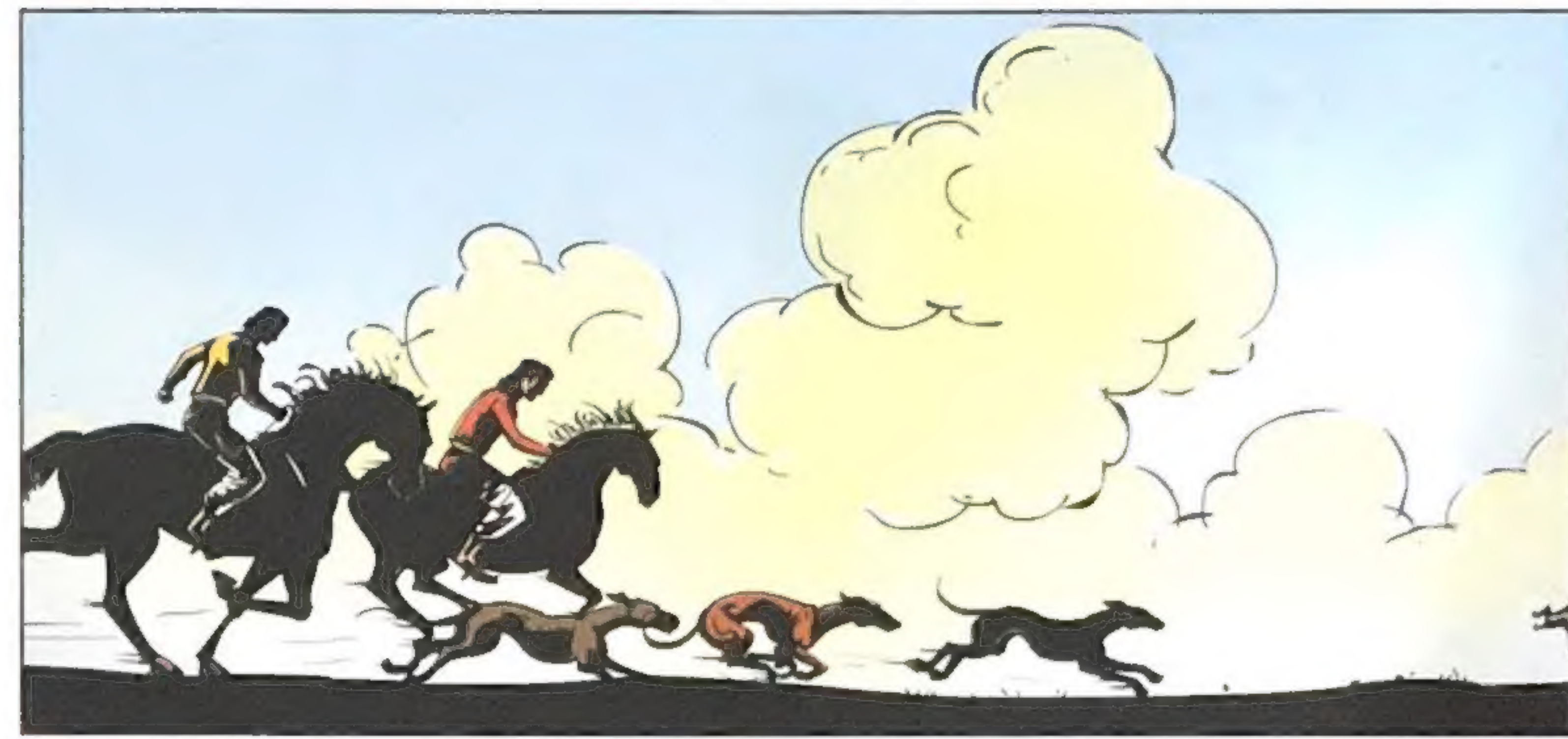
GRRR



WHAT IS HE GROWLING AT?

GRRR

A RABBIT! LET'S GO!



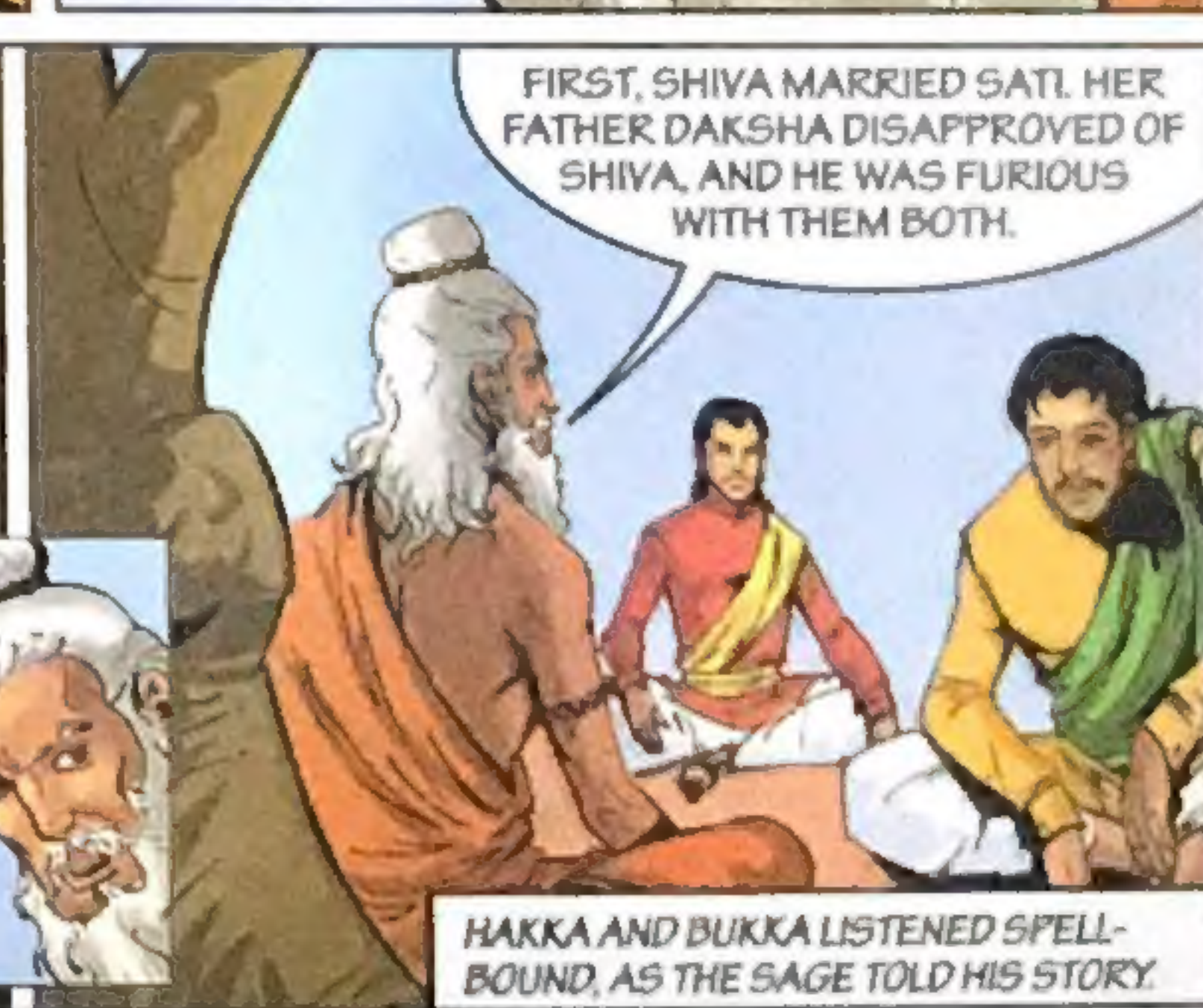
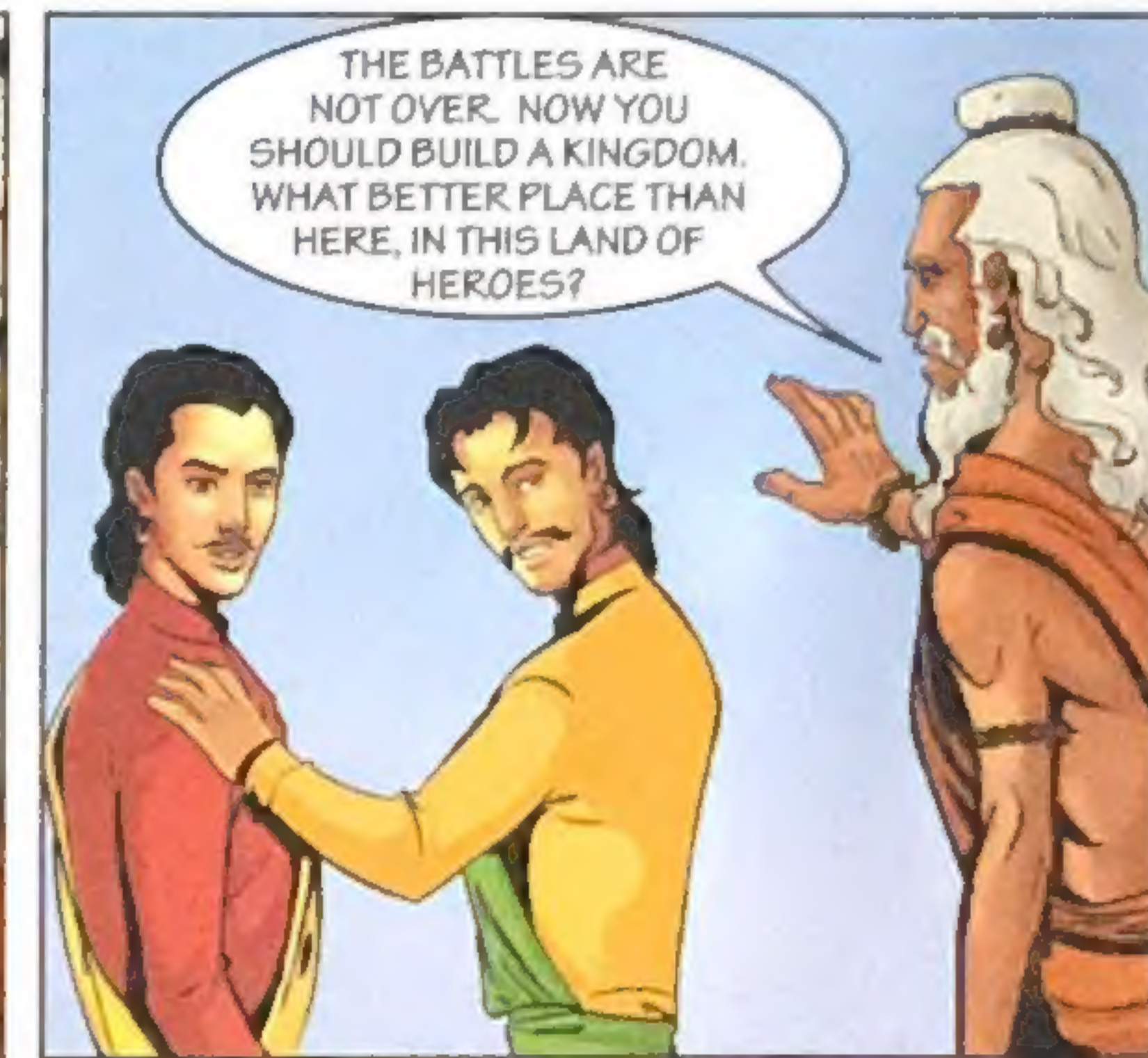
THE RABBIT IS TIRING! WE'VE ALMOST GOT IT NOW.



YELP!

S-N-A-R-L





HAKKA AND BUKKA LISTENED SPELL-BOUND, AS THE SAGE TOLD HIS STORY.



"DAKSHA HELD A GREAT YAGNA. HE INVITED ALL THE GODS AND GODDESSES. ONLY SHIVA AND SATI WERE LEFT OUT. HURT, SATI DECIDED TO ATTEND THE SACRIFICE. BUT -



I DIDN'T INVITE YOU. NOT AFTER YOU MARRIED THAT BEGGAR. SHOULD I BE GRATEFUL YOU DIDN'T BRING HIM HERE!?

HOW CAN YOU SPEAK LIKE THAT ABOUT MY HUSBAND? I AM TOO ASHAMED TO CONTINUE TO LIVE AS YOUR DAUGHTER!



"SATI INVOKED THE GOD OF FIRE AND BURST INTO FLAMES.

I ONLY HOPE THAT IN MY NEXT LIFE I WILL BE BORN TO A BETTER FATHER.

NO! HOW WILL I TELL LORD SHIVA?



"FILLED WITH SORROW AND FEAR, NANDI RETURNED TO KAILASHA. AS HE STAMMERED OUT THE STORY, SHIVA'S GRIEF AND ANGER KNEW NO BOUNDS. WHEN NANDI ENDED SHIVA'S EYES BLAZED WITH FURY.



"HE TORE OFF A STRAND OF HAIR ...



"... AND THREW IT ON THE GROUND.



"FROM THE HAIR EMERGED A TERRIBLE GOD, FEARSOME IN HIS RAGE, AND FILLED WITH A THIRST FOR DESTRUCTION -



WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, MY LORD?

"HIS NAME WAS VEERABHADRA.



DESTROY DAKSHA'S YAGNA. TAKE MY ARMY.



TO DAKSHA'S COURT!

"VEERABHADRA LED HIS ARMY DOWN FROM MOUNT KAILASHA, BENT ON DESTRUCTION.

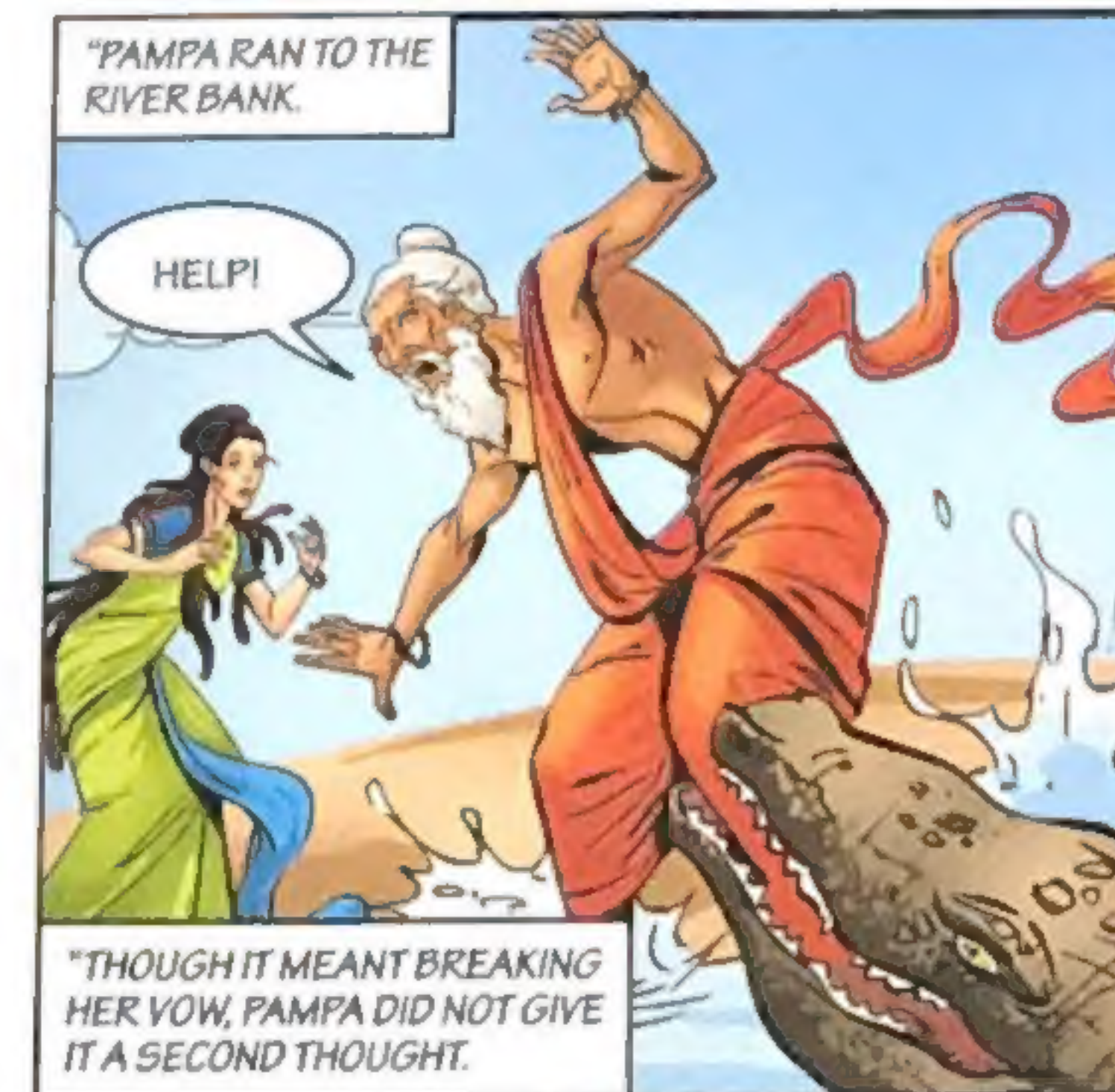
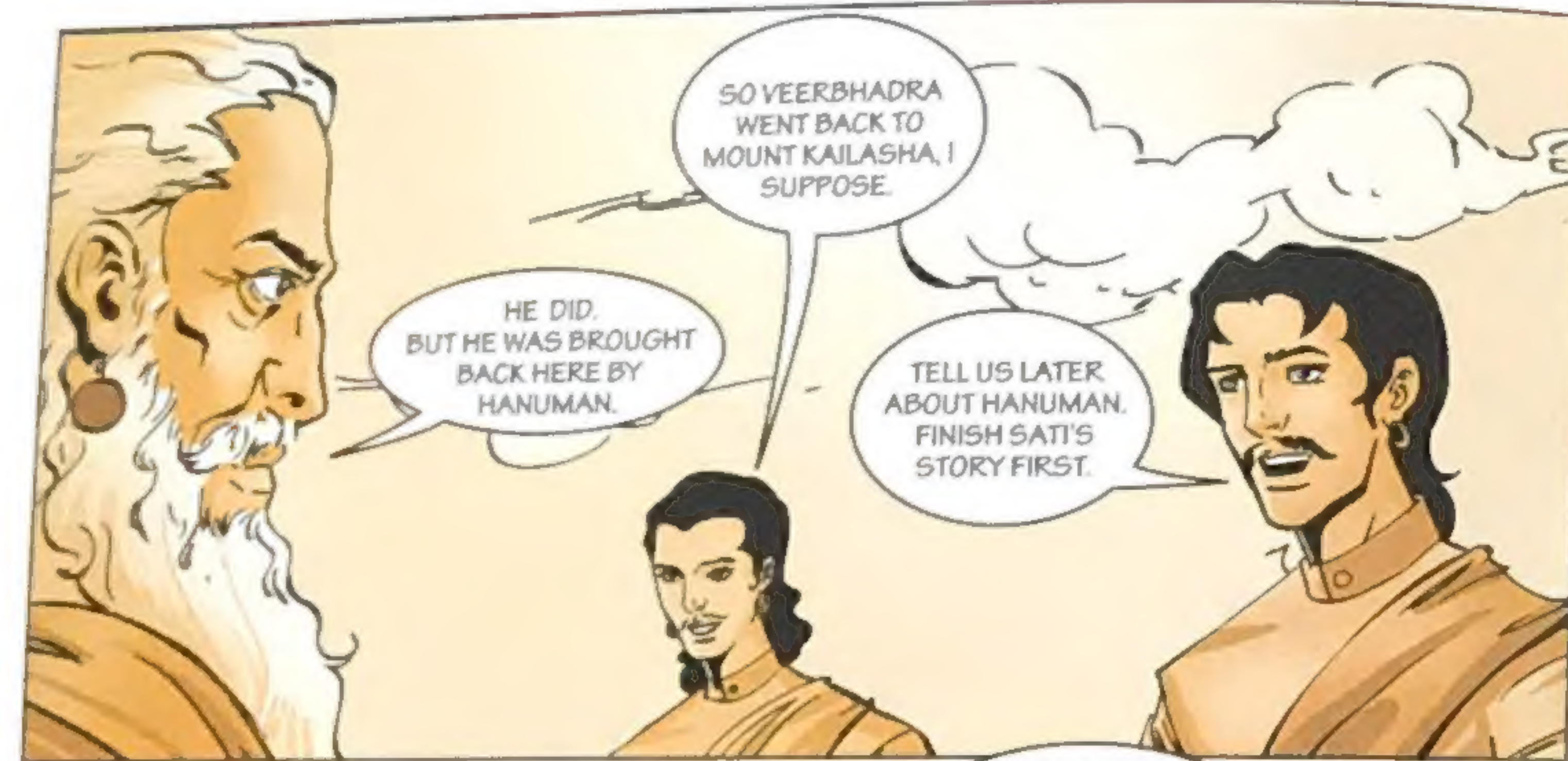




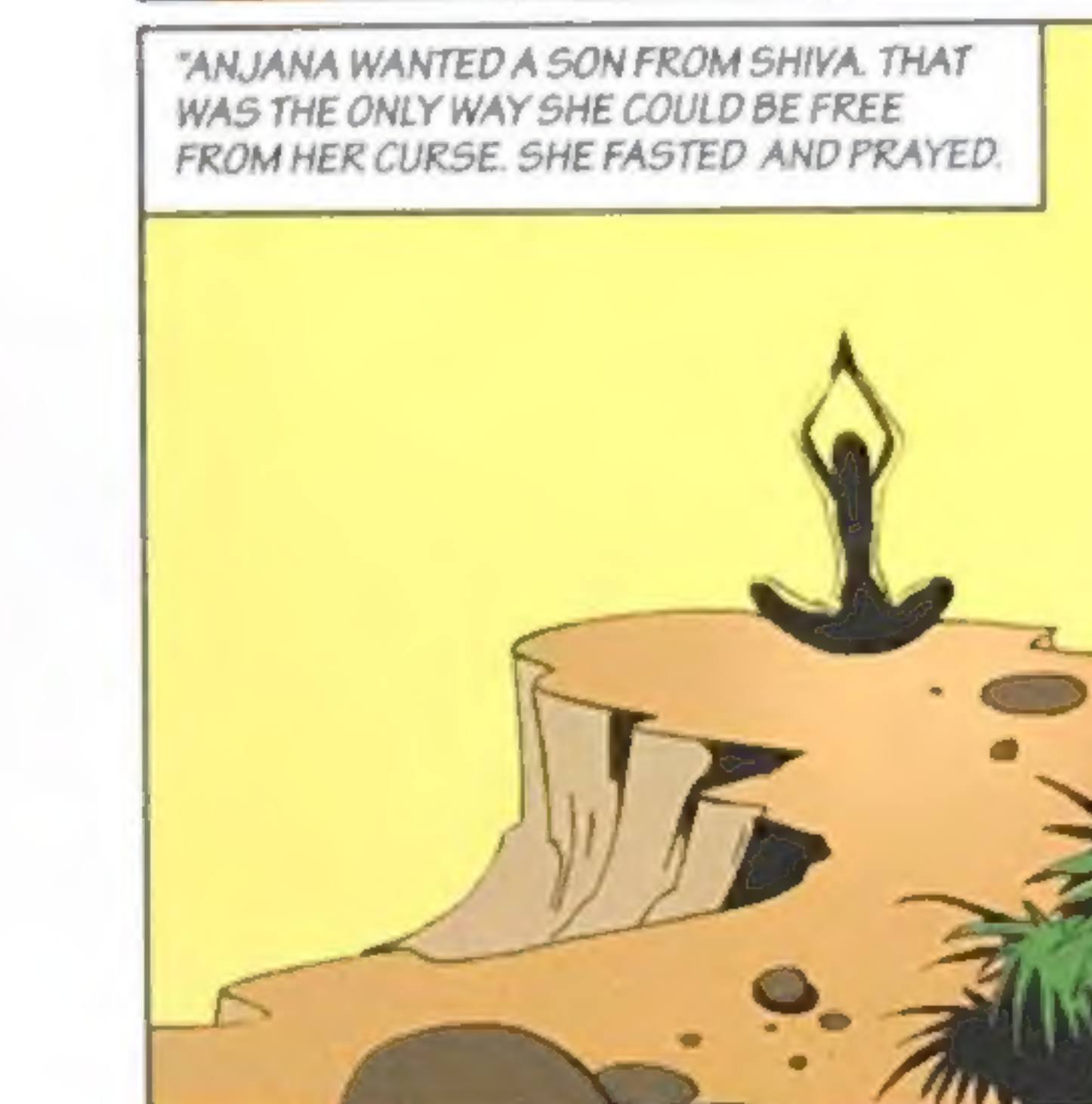
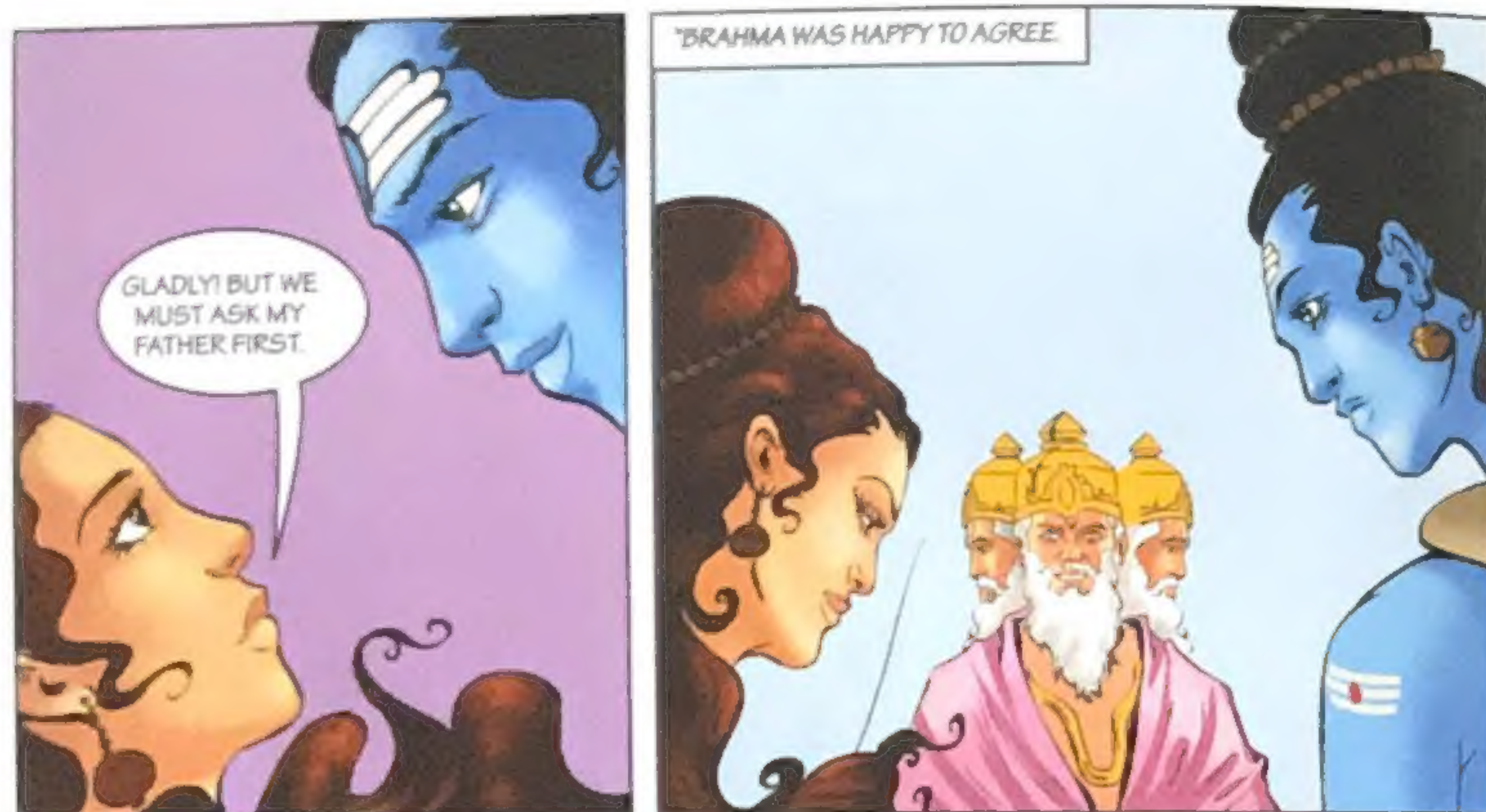
"THE OTHER GODS TRIED TO STOP HIM BUT NO ONE COULD WITHSTAND VEERABHADRA'S FURY. HIS MISSION WAS ACCOMPLISHED BUT HE RAGED ON, AS IF HE WOULD DESTROY ALL CREATION."



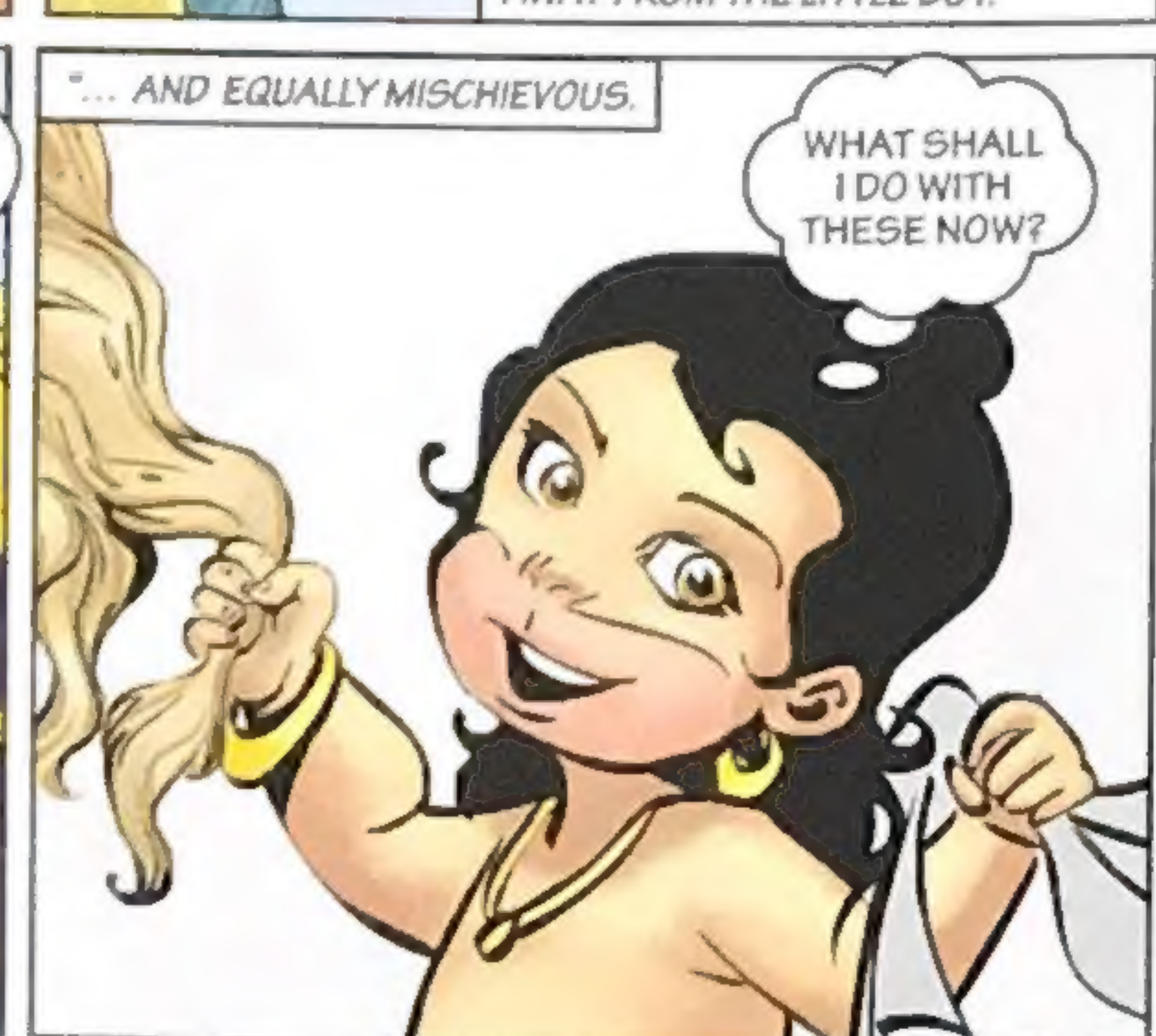








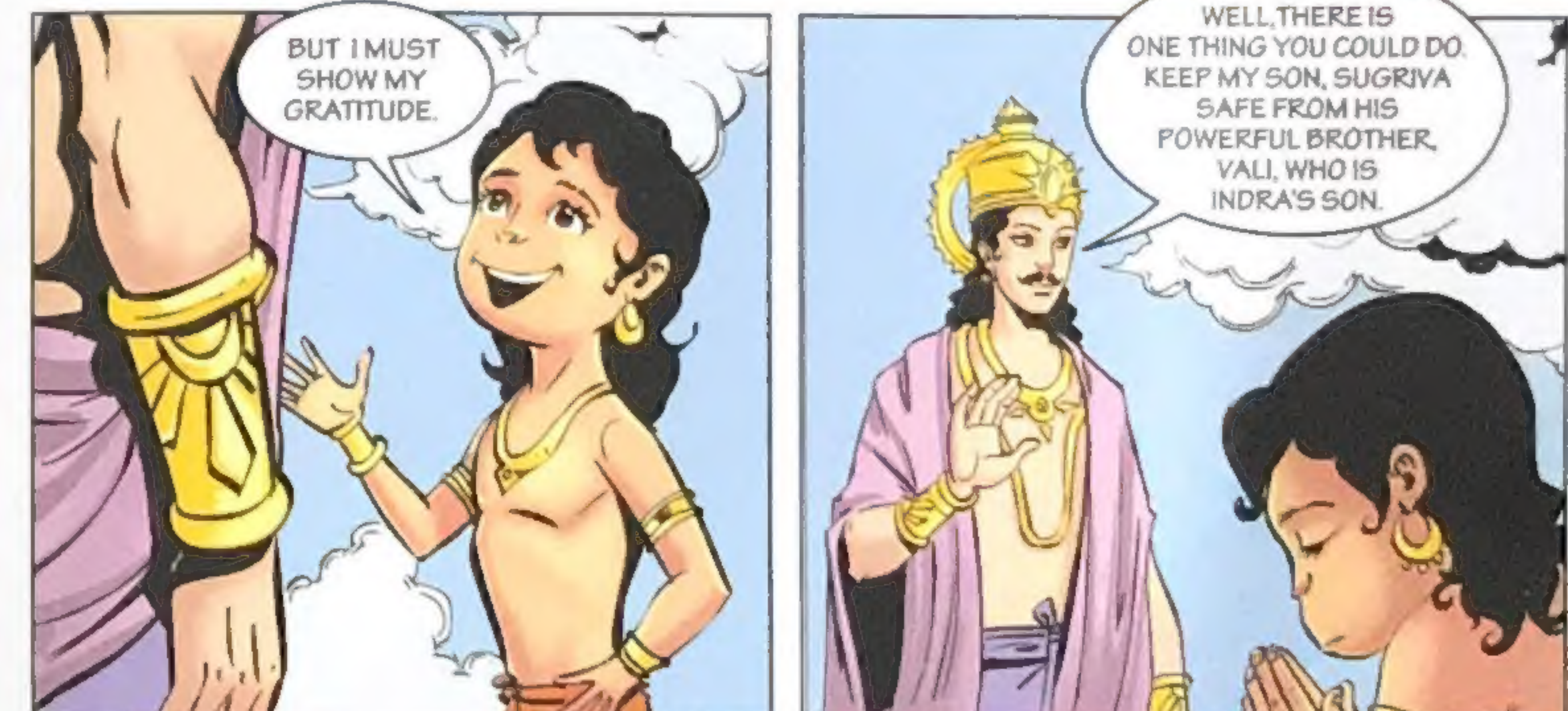






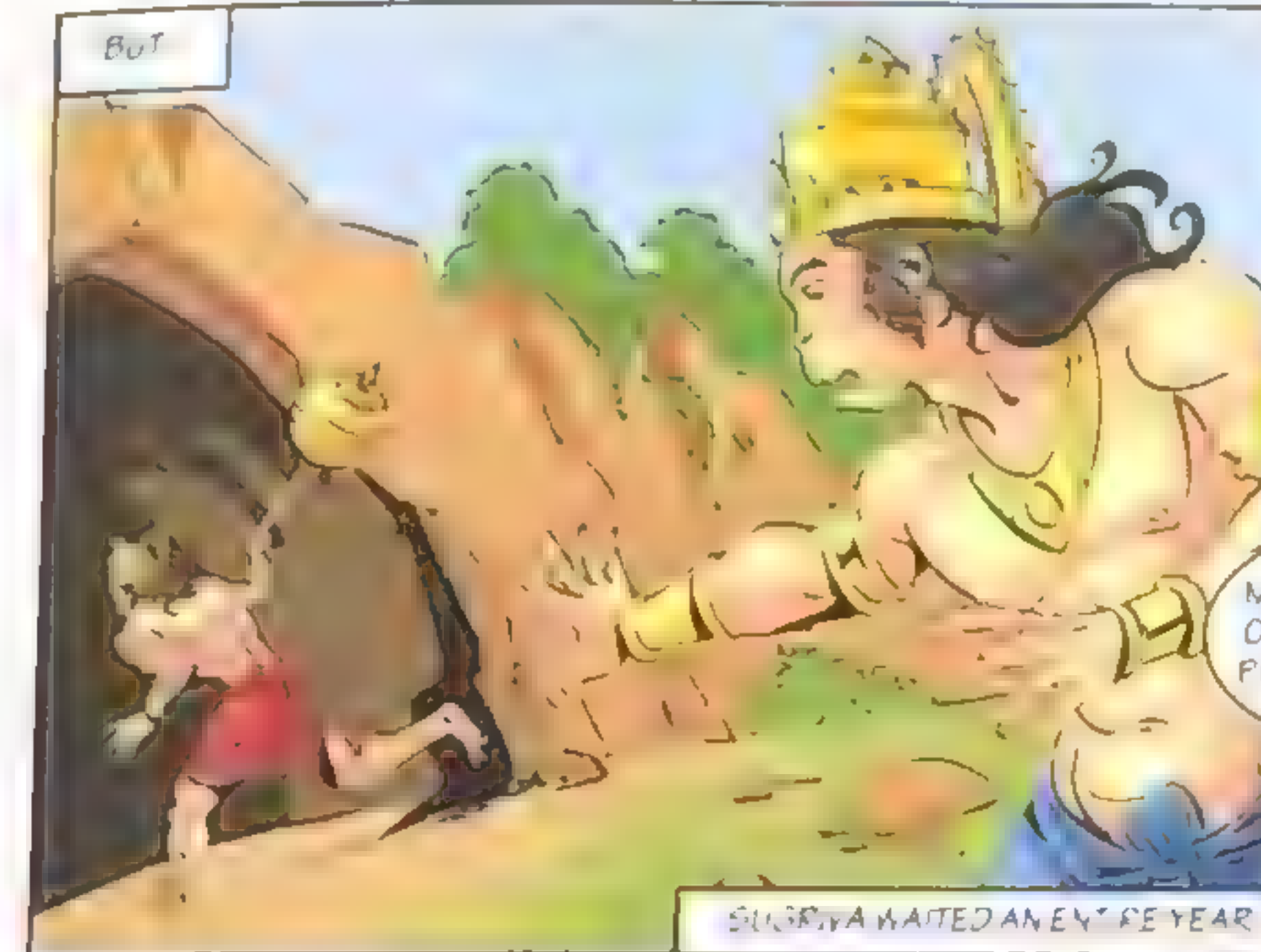


\* THE SUN GOD  
\*\* SAGES WHO WERE THE SIZE OF A THUMB.

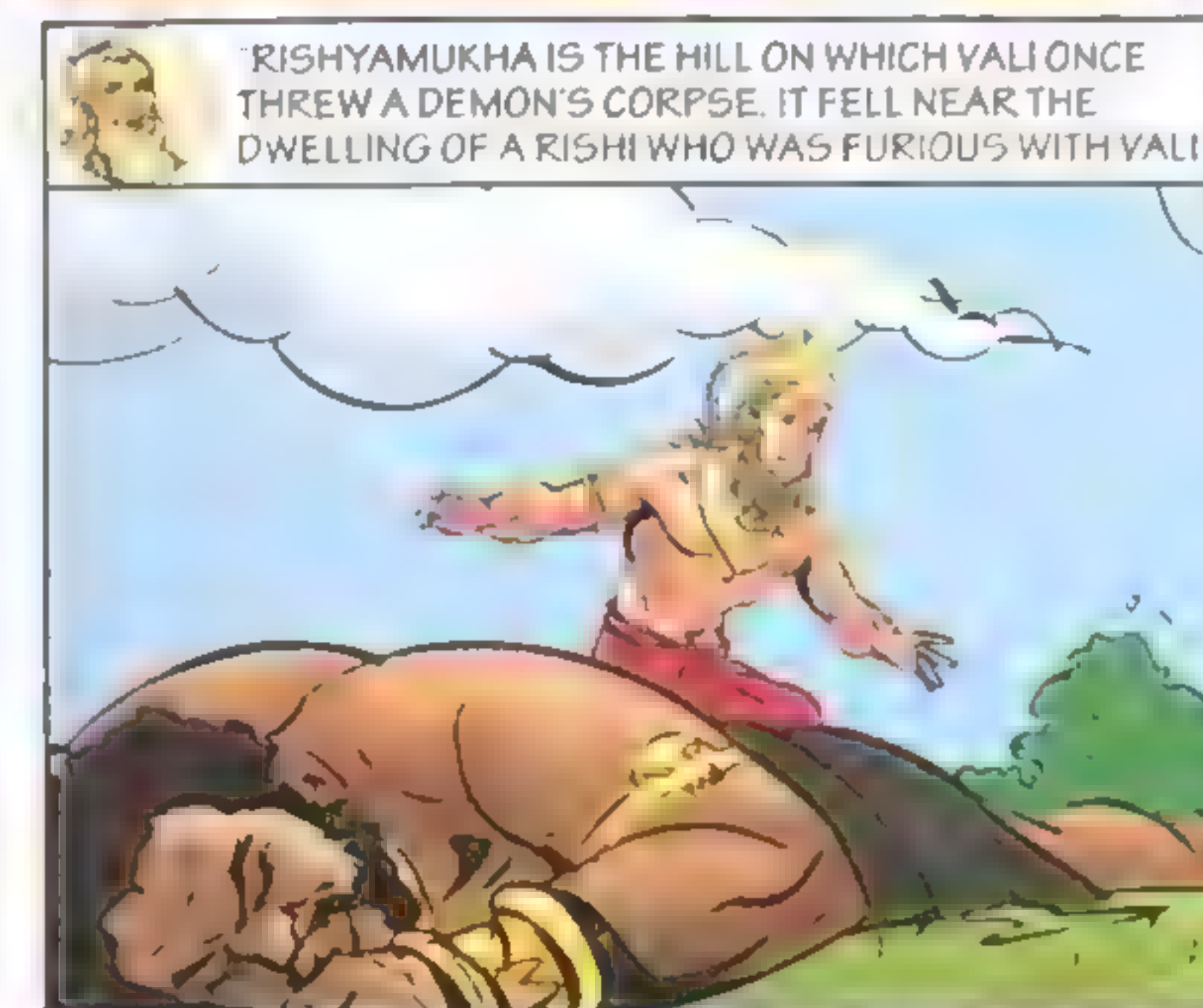
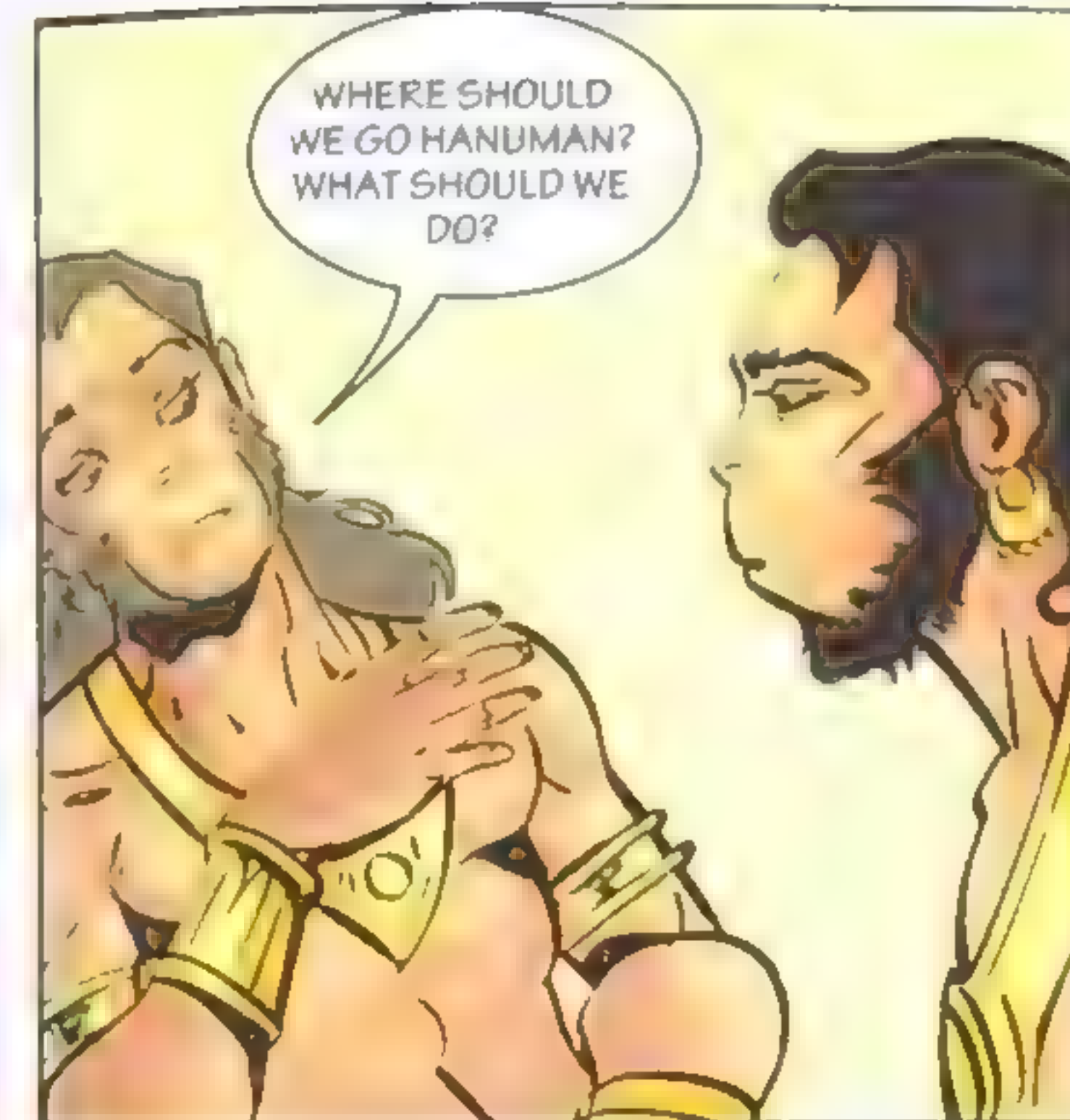
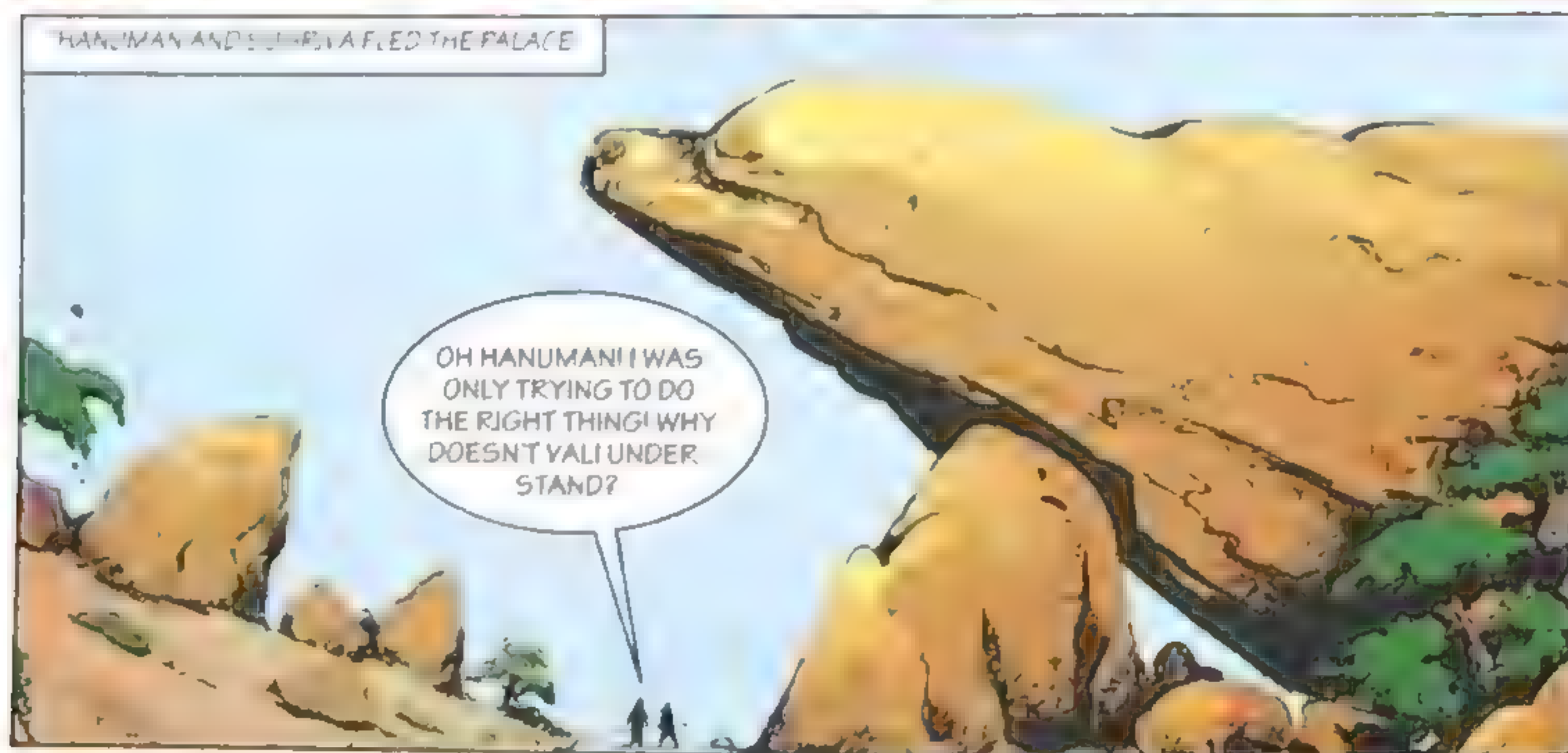
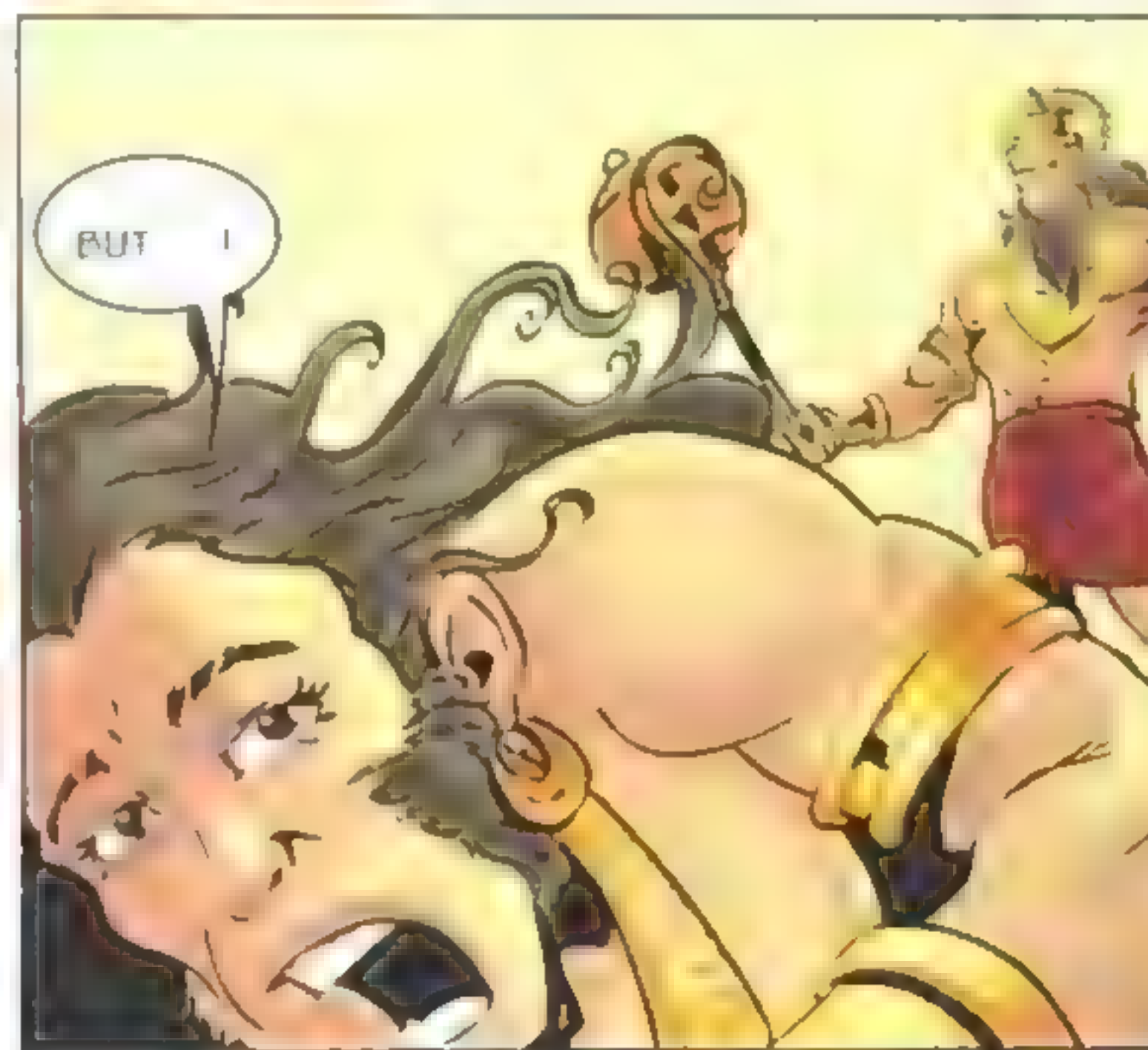
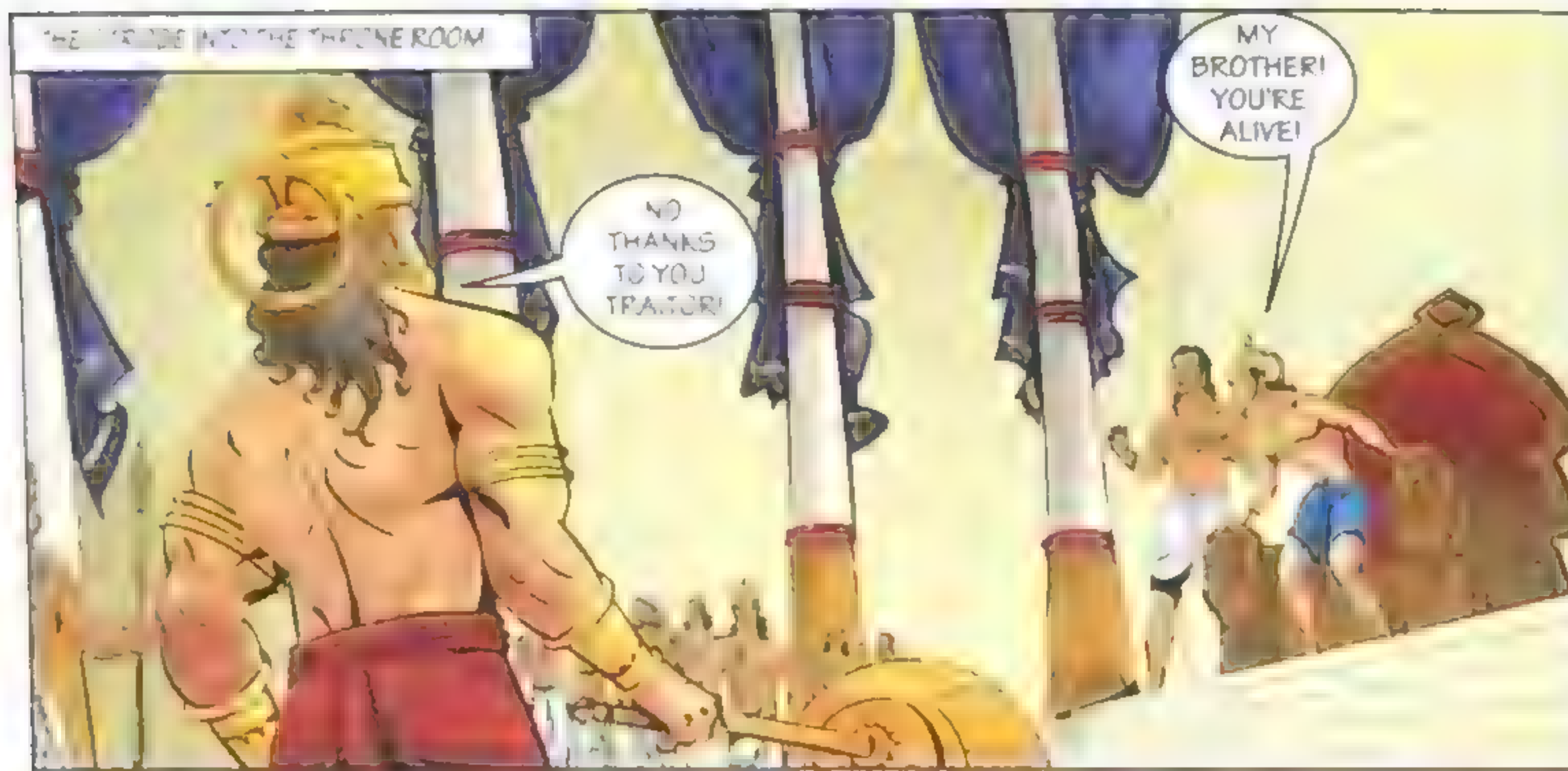


\* THE GIFT A STUDENT GIVES HIS GURU, IN GRATITUDE FOR BEING TAUGHT.





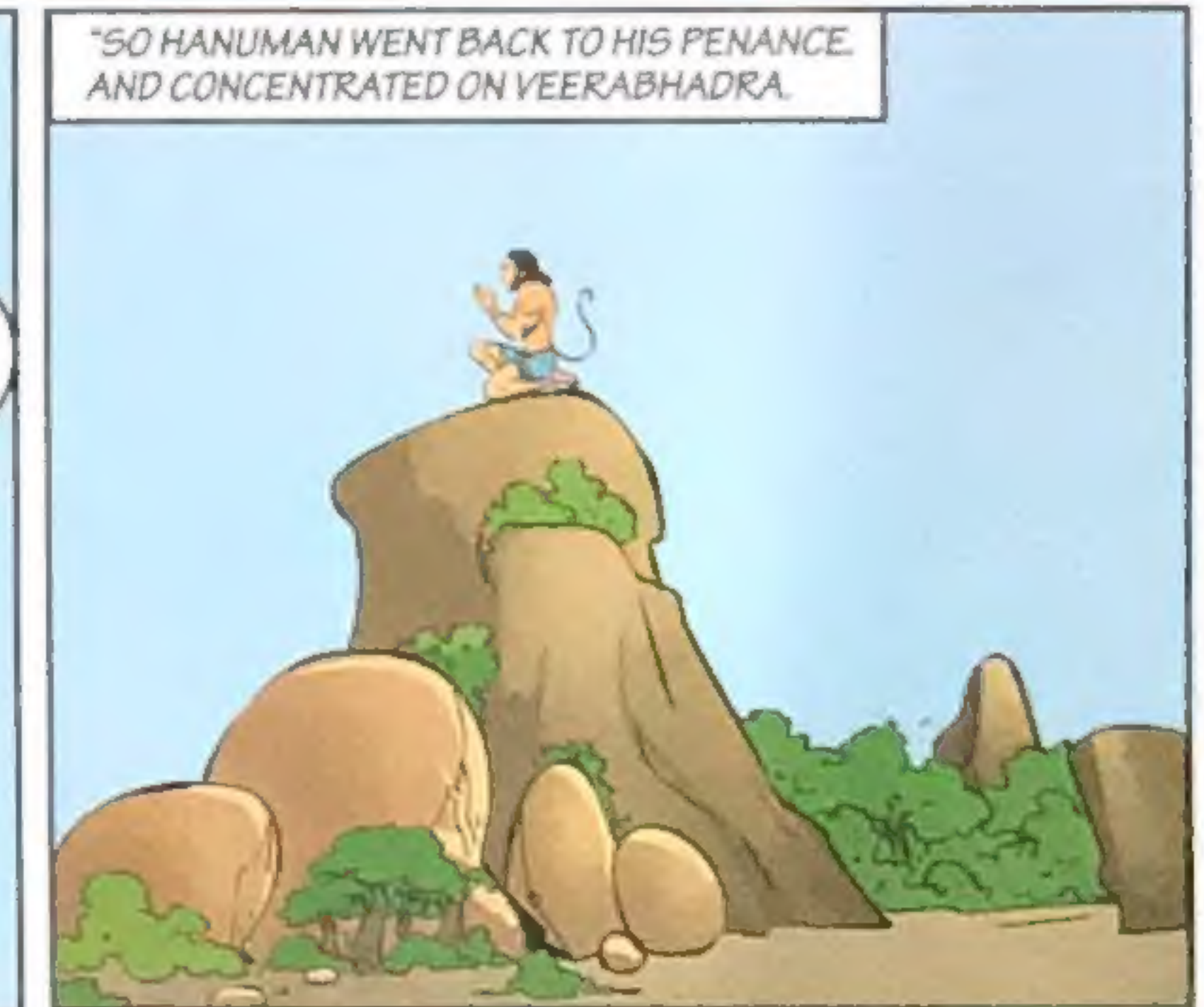
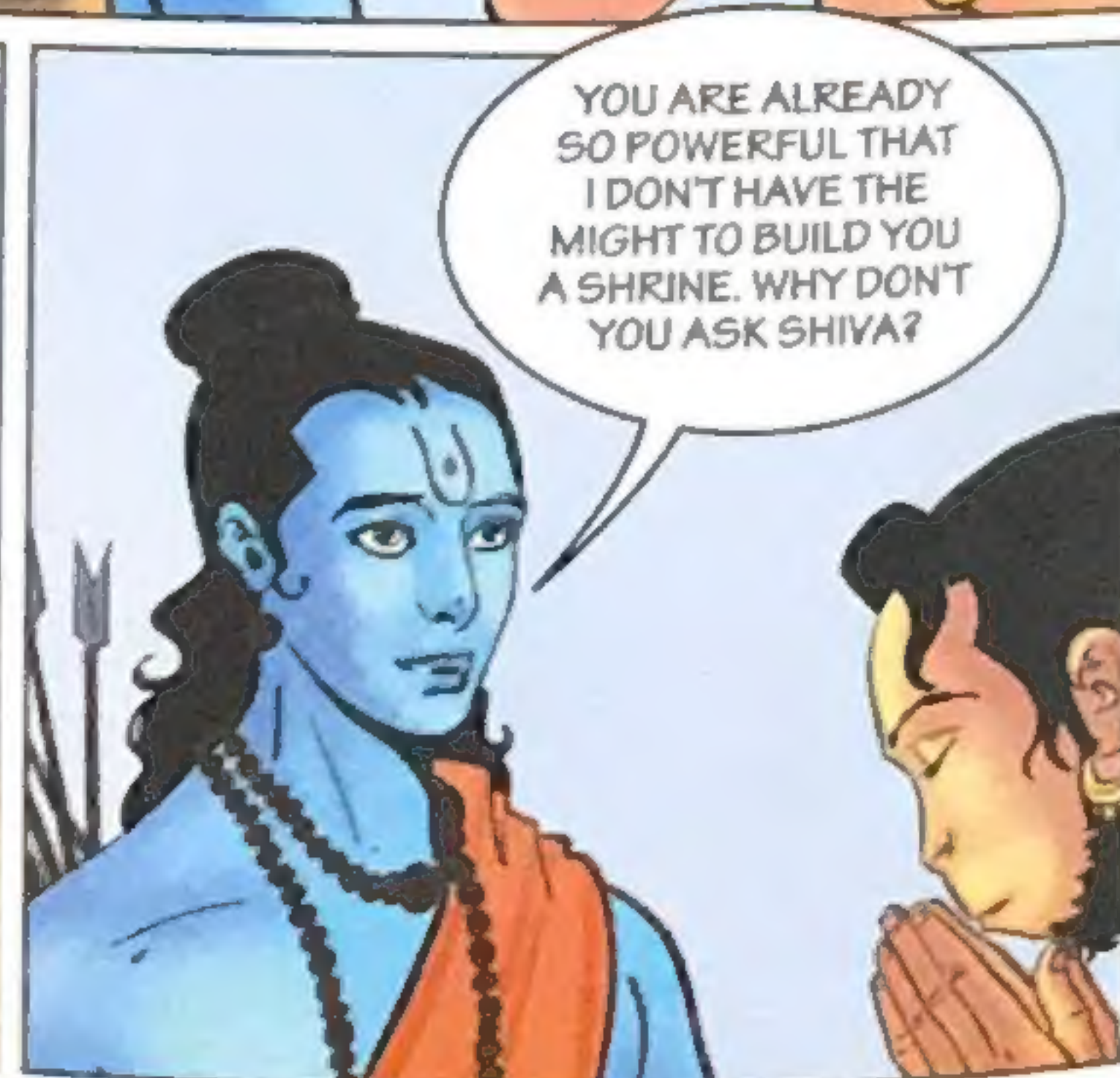
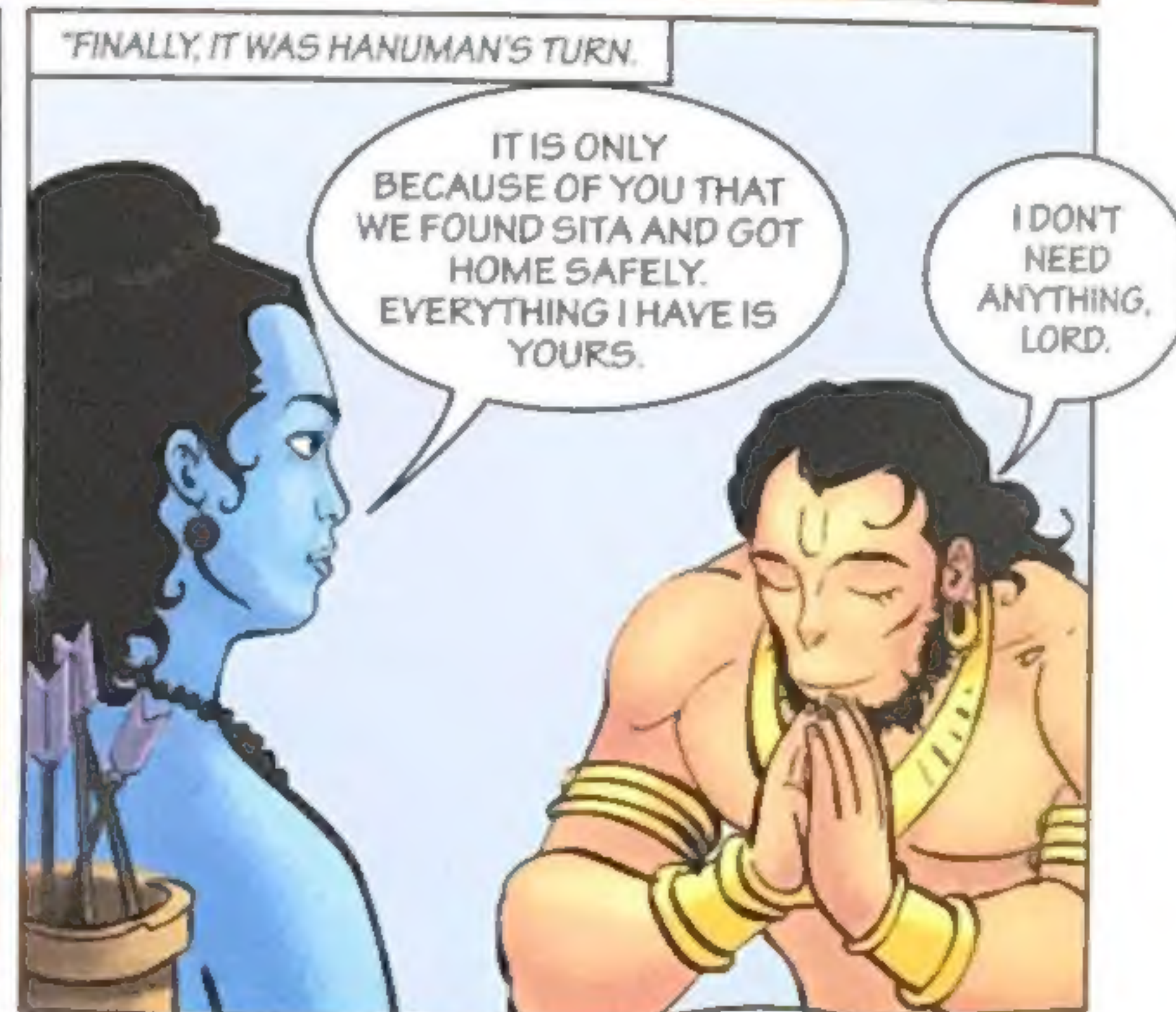
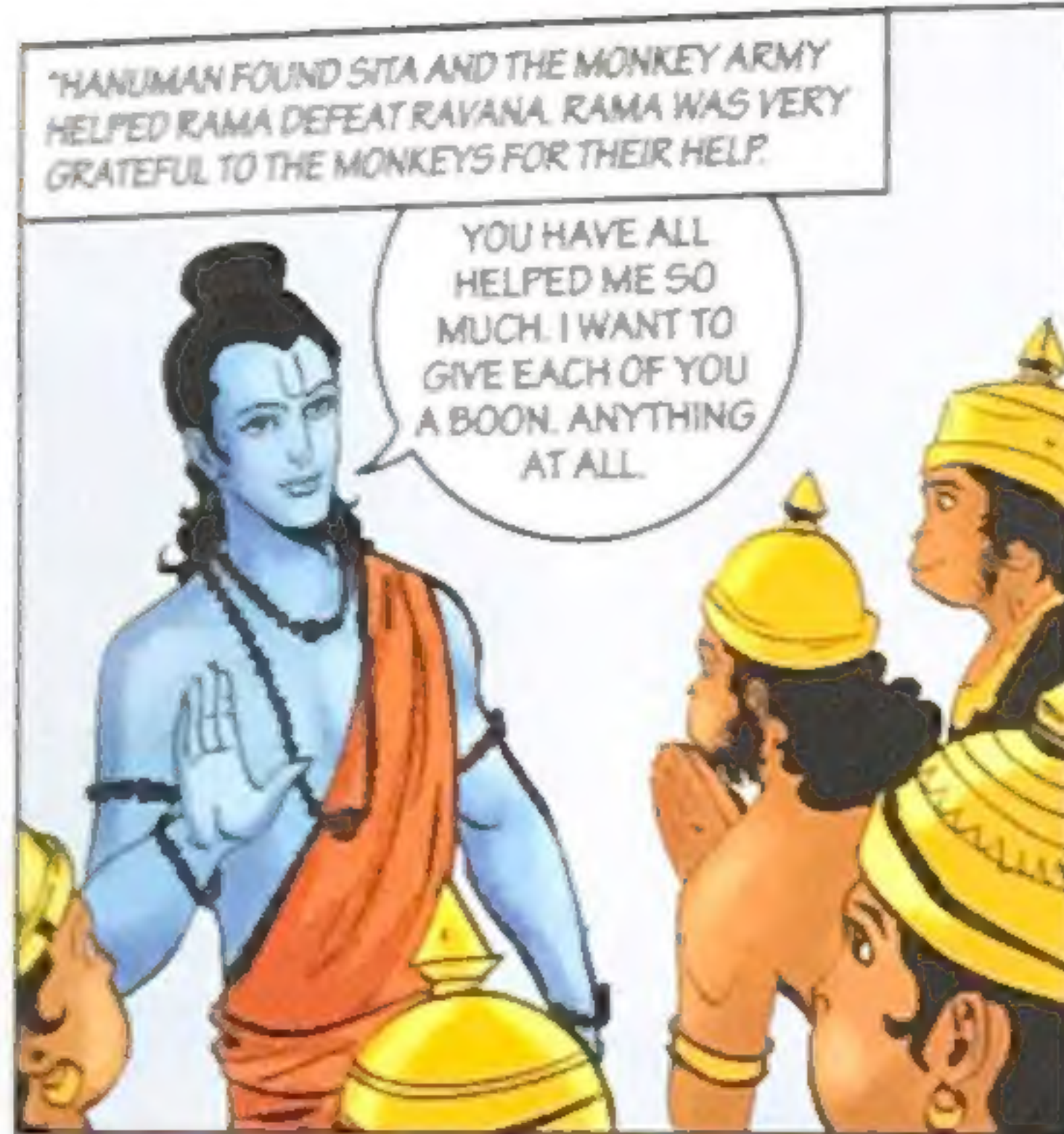




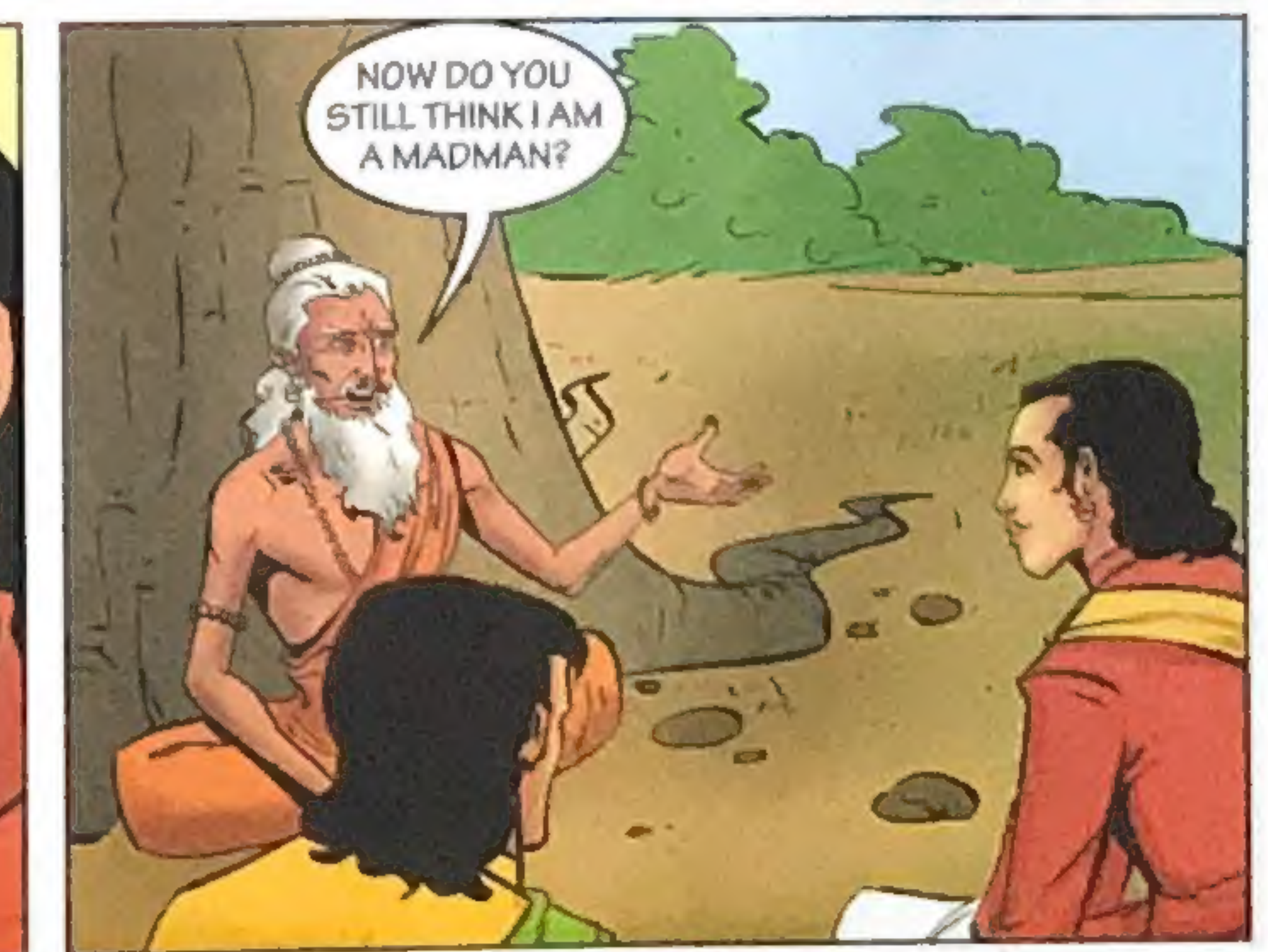
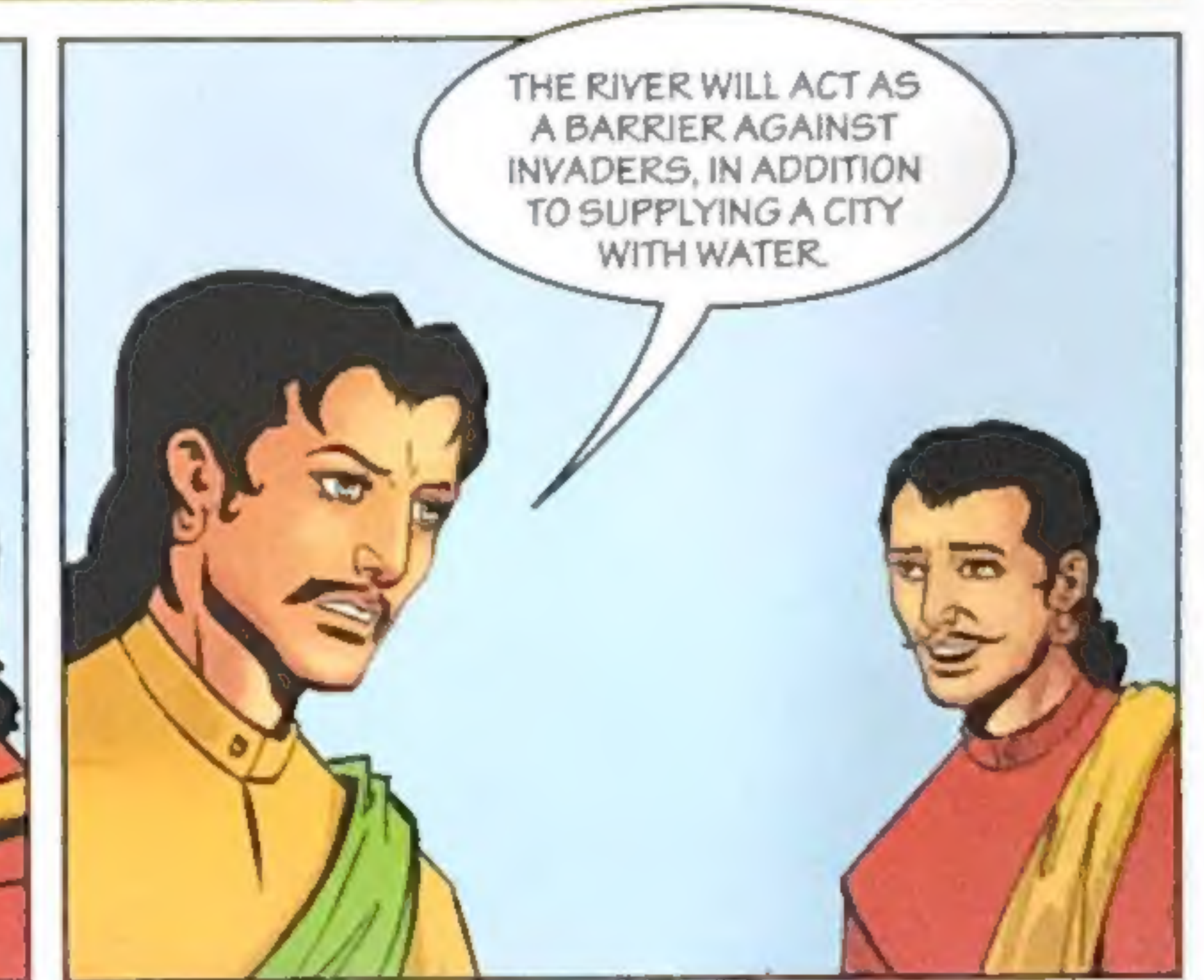
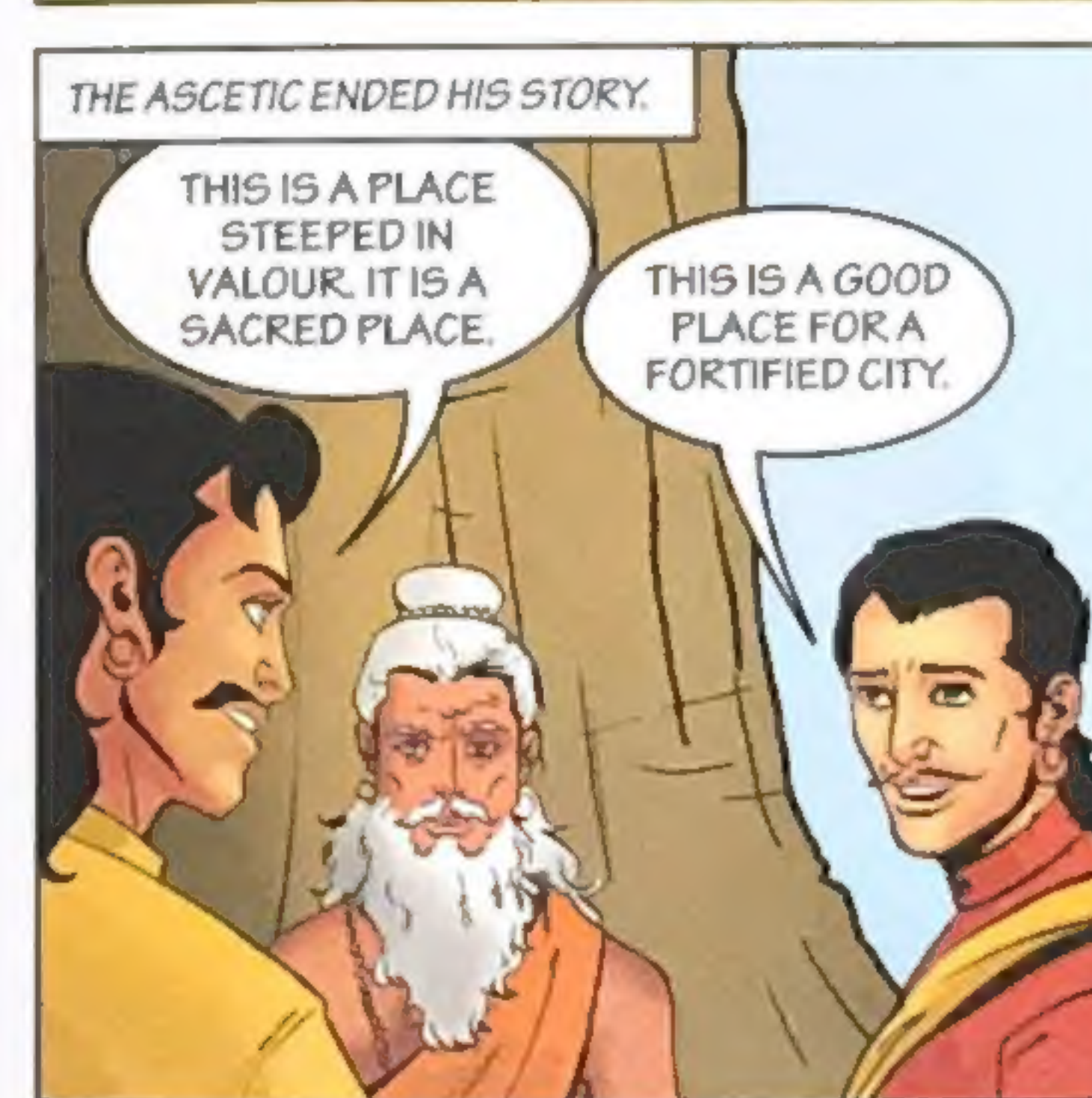




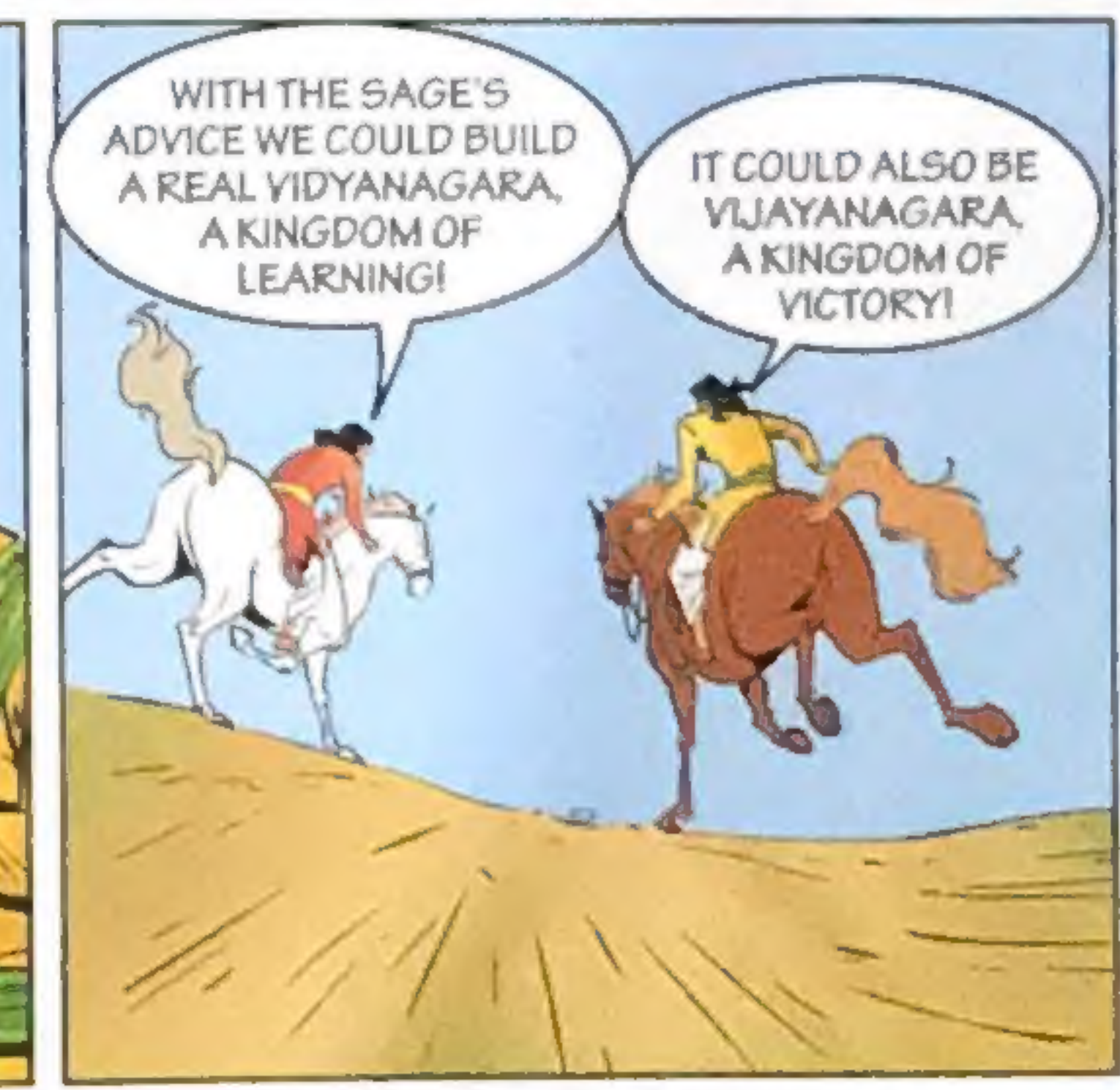














WITH VIDYARANYA AS THEIR ADVISOR, HAKKA AND BUKKA DID SET UP THE VAST KINGDOM OF VIJAYANAGARA. ITS CAPITAL WAS A SPRAWLING CITY, HOME TO PAINTERS, SCULPTORS, DANCERS, MUSICIANS AND WRITERS. HAKKA BECAME ITS FIRST KING, HARIHARA RAYA I, AND BUKKA ITS SECOND RULER, BUKKA RAYA I. UNDER THEIR SUCCESSORS, THE KINGDOM BECAME A CENTRE OF CULTURE AND LEARNING. IT LASTED MORE THAN 200 YEARS, BEFORE AN ALLIANCE OF FIVE RIVAL KINGDOMS SACKED THE CITY. THOUGH THE KINGDOM OF VIJAYANAGARA IS LONG GONE, THE REMAINS OF ITS MAGNIFICENT PALACES AND ORNATE TEMPLES STILL STAND TESTIMONY TO A GLORIOUS EPOCH IN THE HISTORY OF INDIA.



IF YOU VISIT HAMPI, YOU CAN STILL SEE MANY OF THE PLACES MENTIONED IN THE STORIES. THEY ARE MARKED HERE ON THIS MAP.

1. UDDANA VEERABHADRA TEMPLE - HANUMAN'S TEMPLE
2. RISHYAMUKHA HILL - A RISHI CURSED VALI, SAYING HE WOULD DIE IF HE STEPPED ON THIS HILL.
3. SUGRIVA'S CAVE - THE PLACE WHERE SUGRIVA AND HANUMAN LIVED WHEN THEY RAN AWAY FROM VALI.
4. ANJENADRI HILL AND TEMPLE - THERE IS A TEMPLE TO MARK THE SPOT WHERE ANJANA IS SAID TO HAVE PRAYED TO SHIVA FOR A SON.
5. HEMAKUTA HILL - WHERE PAMPA AND SHIVA GOT MARRIED. GOLD IS SAID TO HAVE RAINED DOWN ON THEM AND COVERED THE HILL.
6. CHAKRATIRTHA - THE PLACE WHERE VEERABHADRA GAVE VISHNU THE SUDARSHAN CHAKRA.
7. VIRUPAKSHA TEMPLE - VIRUPAKSHA IS ANOTHER NAME FOR SHIVA.
8. ANEGUNDI - AN OLD FORTRESS THAT EXISTED BEFORE HAKKA AND BUKKA SET UP THE CITY OF VIJAYANAGARA.

